--- “Series of 1897” - 500 Manila Cheroots - 410 x 20 mm. ---

--- *recess printed* in BLACK ink - unlisted Die Proof - [CANADA - F-87] **- scanned at 60% scale ---**

--- with the 24 mm. [AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. OTTAWA **] imprint ---**

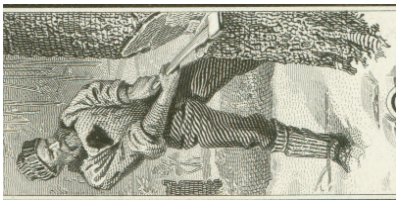
In 1897 the American Bank Note Company of Ottawa obtained the contract to print revenue and tax-paid stamps for the Canadian government. It was the sixtieth anniversary of the ascension of Queen Victoria to the throne of England, and a special effort was made to issue a beautifully engraved series of stamps.

RG-402 DP - 500 manila cheroots, the black die proof [CANADA - F - 87] on thick *horizontal* mesh wove
[the design measures 410 x 20 mm., without counting the imprint]

The 500 portion is missing at the right end of the upper half (after CHEROOTS) - the length has been estimated to include the missing piece

Unfortunately, at some time in the past, these 1897 die proofs were trimmed as shown above by a person unknown. The longer proofs, in the larger denominations, were trimmed and then cut into two sections.

Tony Hyman reports that these large box strips were prepared for use on boxes of cigars imported from the Philippine Islands. Possibly that accounts for the inscription “Manilla Cheroots”.



--- the lumberjack - scanned at 100% scale ---

--- RG-402 - recess printed in BLACK ink - *coarse roulette* - with 4½ mm. red control numbers ---

I do not have the copy to scan for the files, but saw the strip at “Westpex 2007” in San Francisco, so a plate was definitely prepared.

030001 ○ RG-402 500 Manila Cheroots, black, coarse roulette - ***from the collection of Fritz Angst***

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1897 \ Black \ 500 cheroots - 410 mm strip],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 16th 2013, JBH